

## Message Text

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ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-07 EB-08 COME-00 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /042 W

-----042209 031323Z /40

R 020900Z DEC 77

FM AMCONSUL MADRAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4328

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS MADRAS 1851

FOR FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, IN

SUBJECT: FROZEN FROGLEGS EXPORTS TO USA-REPORTED WITHDRAWAL  
BY USFDA FROM US-INDIA AGREEMENT ON QUALITY CONTROL

1. THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF SEAFOOD EXPORT JOURNAL OF COCHIN CARRIES AN EDITORIAL WHICH BEGINS "IT IS RATHER UNFORTUNATE THAT THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION OF U.S.A. TERMINATED THE AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO BETWEEN U.S. AND INDIAN GOVERNMENTS ON PROCESSING OF FROGLEGS FOR EXPORT TO U.S.A." TRACING THE REASONS WHICH LED TO THE BILATERAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES ON QUALITY CONTROL, THE EDITORIAL CONTINUES "TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, MR. SHANE OF THE U.S.F.D.A. WHO VISITED INDIA ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION, FOLLOWING THE DETENTION OF INDIAN FROGLEGS IN U.S. A. HAD CARRIED WITH HIM A VERY GOOD IMPRESSION ABOUT INDIA'S INSPECTION SYSTEM." THE COUNCIL CLAIMS THAT THE AGREEMENT WAS WORKING WELL AND INDIA HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTING "A VERY RIGID SYSTEM OF QUALITY CONTROL AND SAMPLING PROCEDURES." HOWEVER, THE ARTICLE COMPLAINED "AFTER TWO YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL WORKING OF THE AGREEMENT, THE U.S.F.D.A. HAS TERMINATED THE AGREEMENT, PRESUMABLY, UNILATERALLY." HINTING THAT FDA HAS BEEN BIASED, THE MAGAZINE SAYS "IT IS HARD TO UNDERSTAND WHY INDIAN FROGLEGS,

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PROCESSED AND INSPECTED ON THE LINES LAID DOWN BY THE F.D.A. SHOULD AGAIN BE A SUBJECT OF CONTROVERSY WHILE THOSE IMPORTED FROM OTHER COUNTRIES WITHOUT ANY INSPECTION AT ALL, SHOULD GET ACCEPTED FOR CONSUMPTION IN U.S.A. THIS IS AN INTRIGUING PARADOX CALLING FOR SOME EXPLANATION." IN CONCLUSION THE EDITORIAL RECOMMENDS THAT THE GOI MUST INVITE A TEAM OF FDA EXPERTS TO INDIA TO CONVINCENCE THEMSELVES

ABOUT THE WORKING OF THE QUALITY CONTROL PROCEDURES.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF THE  
DEPARTMENT COULD PASS THE ABOVE INFORMATION TO  
USFDA AND OBTAIN FOR US SOME GUIDELINES TO ANSWER  
POSSIBLE INQUIRIES ON THIS SUBJECT.  
MCCASKILL

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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